

P-20 Council Meeting

Tuesday, January 21, 2014

10:00am – 3:45pm

Video Locations

Chicago – University of Illinois, Student Center East, 750 S. Halsted, Room 302

Springfield – University of Illinois, Brookens Library, 2200 Ernest Hemingway Dr., Media Laboratory, Room 141A

Attendees

Chicago: Jim Applegate, Harry Berman, Theresa Hawley, Joyce Karon, Kurt Hilgendorf, Dea Meyer, Melissa Mitchell, John Rico, Jane Russell, Julie Smith, Robin Steans, Deb Strauss, Miguel del Valle, Sylvia Wetzel for Ron Bullock, Eric Zarnikow

Springfield: Karen Hunter Anderson, Larry Frank, Janet Holt

Phone: Erika Hunt

MINUTES

I. 10:00am Opening and Introductions – Chairman Miguel del Valle

Chairman welcomed members and guests and thanked the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) and the University of Illinois at Springfield (UIS) for hosting the Council.

Chairman presented a certificate of appreciation on behalf of the Council and the Governor to outgoing Executive Director of the IL Board of Higher Education (IBHE), Dr. Harry Berman. Dr. Berman accepted the certificate and thanked the Council for their continued service in support of strengthening Illinois' education system.

Chairman welcomed Dr. Jim Applegate, newly named Executive Director of IBHE. Dr. Berman introduced Dr. Applegate who comes to Illinois from the Lumina Foundation and wished him well in his new role.

II. 10:10am Welcome from University of Illinois

Chancellor Paula Allen-Meares from the UIC campus welcomed the Council and spoke about the important student opportunities taking place through the university.

Chairman thanked the Chancellor for sharing the work of the campus and for her generosity in hosting.

III. 10:20am Review of October 2013 Meeting Minutes

Council approved the draft minutes from the October 2013 Council meeting as presented.

IV. 10:25am Connecting the Dots on Common Core: Supporting Implementation at the Local Level – Dr. Shelby Cosner, University of Illinois at Chicago

Chair welcomed Dr. Shelby Cosner, associate professor at UIC who specializes in educational organization and leadership. She provided a presentation on enhancing the implementation of new college and career readiness aligned standards using a cycle of inquiry approach. This approach provides a framework for identifying a

problem or challenge, selecting strategies to address the challenge, and evaluating whether or not the strategies were effective in addressing the problem based on specific goals. The model provides a template for developing a theory of action and establishing a continuous feedback loop for continuous improvement. Her presentation was provided in hard copy at the meeting and made available electronically through the website along with other meeting materials.

Dr. Cosner took questions and comments from the Council following her remarks. Chair thanked her for sharing her insights with the Council and helping to provide a path forward for this important work in which educators and administrators across the state and nation are engaged.

V. 11:05pm Supporting College and Career Readiness for All Students Panel Discussion: Implementing the Common Core State Standards for English Language Learners and Special Education Students

- Reyna Hernandez – Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE)
- John Hilliard & Josie Yanguas – Illinois Resource Center
- Rachele Dadouche - Nowak – Northern Suburban Special Education District

Chairman introduced the next topic and welcomed panelists. He noted that the Council continues to work closely with ISBE on the transition to the new Common Core aligned Illinois Student Learning Standards and indicated that better understanding how the needs of English Learners (ELs) and Special Needs Students will be met is an important piece of the conversation.

Reyna Hernandez described the work that the State Board is engaged in to support English Learners and students more broadly during the transition to new standards and assessments. Her presentation featured a matrix of essential components for school cross-walked with both targeted and integrated strategies for support ELs. She indicated that the goal of the State Board is to provide a comprehensive set of supports and services to ensure that the needs of all students are met in the State's effort to better prepare them for college and careers.

John Hilliard described the diversity among ELs and their proficiency in English and their home language and the importance of taking a student's strengths and abilities into consideration when developing a strategy for best supporting their continued learning and development.

Rachele Dadouche Nowak spoke about effective approaches for ensuring that standards are raised for all students and that appropriate resources, practices, and transitions are in place to support students in reaching the updated standards. She emphasized the key shifts associated with the adoption of college and career readiness aligned standards including changes in instruction, professional development, and the development of Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) which will need to come together in order to support student learning.

Panelists opened for questions and discussion with the Council. Chairman thanked panelists for their presentations.

VI. 12:05pm Lunch Break

Council broke for lunch.

VII. 12:35pm Update on Senate Education Funding Advisory Committee – Amanda Elliot, IL State Board of Education

Amanda Elliot, Legislative Liaison for ISBE, provided an update on the work of the Senate Education Funding Advisory Committee in place of Superintendent Chris Koch who was unable to make it to the meeting. Elliot provided an overview of the feedback and testimony received by the Committee over the course of their public hearings. She also noted the bipartisan composition of the Committee which was led by State Senator Andy

Manar. The group was established by SR 431 and will be issuing their report at the end of January of this year. The group began meeting in August 2013 and held public hearings across the state to gather stakeholder feedback and expert testimony including the member organizations of several P-20 Council members.

At the core of the discussion were the principles of adequacy, simplicity, transparency, equity, and out-focused. Committee recommended ten changes. Key recommendations included a consensus on the need for a single updated formula which provides additional funding to high need students, holds districts and students to higher standards, and enhances the transparency and accountability for the use of state funds. Additionally, the Committee would like to see a review of district mandates, flexibility around ability of districts to tax, a guaranteed minimum level of state funding to ensure consistency for budgeting, and a more accurate reflection of district's ability to fund education.

Elliot indicated that the report will be submitted to the Governor and the General Assembly upon completion. Final report will be made available on the ISBE and P20 website as well.

VIII. 1:05pm Discussion of Annual Report

Council was provided an outline of topics to be covered in the fourth annual report. Council staff, Amber Kirchhoff, provided an overview of this outline as well as the feedback process. Council members provided input on recommended edits to the organization of topics including additions to the listed items. Kirchhoff indicated that she would incorporate this feedback to ensure concerns and gaps were addressed in the final product. Council will have opportunity to review and comment on a draft of the report prior to its submission to the Governor and General Assembly.

IX. 1:15pm Committee Updates

a. Implementation Review Committee (IRC) – Jane Russell

Jane Russell presented Committee's work plan including timeline, proposed work activities, and expected work products. She noted that per earlier the Committee's previous updates, they continue to work with their members to develop a process for soliciting feedback from key stakeholders engaged in the implementation of Common Core Standards, the PARCC assessment, the Longitudinal Data System, and performance based evaluations. It was noted that Implementation Review Committee would be working in coordinating with the Data, Assessment, and Accountability Committee around data collection related to PARCC and other statewide student assessments.

Council approved the work plan as presented.

b. Teacher and Leader Effectiveness Committee – Diverse Educator Pipeline Working Group – Erika Hunt

Due to technical difficulties, Erika Hunt was unable to connect with the meeting and her presentation was not able to be provided at the meeting. The Chair indicated that we would have to revisit the work of the Diverse Educator Pipeline Working Group at the next P-20 Council meeting. The Committee's presentation was distributed in hard copy and electronically.

c. Data, Assessment, and Accountability (DAA) Committee – Dea Meyer & Robin Steans

Steans and Meyer provided an overview of their proposal for a study which seeks to gather feedback on the purpose and use of large scale student assessments including opportunities,

success, and challenges associated with implementation of PARCC and other statewide student assessments. Study will include facilitated focus groups with key stakeholder group. Data will be collected, summarized, and submitted to the Council for review upon completion of the project.

Council members were pleased to hear about the efforts of the IRC and DAA Committees to engage a broad cross section of stakeholders from across the state to provide feedback on the purpose and use of student assessment and resulting data. Additional comments and discussion focused on the potential implications of a move towards PARCC and what that means for the use ACT and Work Keys. Representatives of the business community indicated that they value the National Career Readiness Certificate as an indication of job readiness.

d. Family, Youth, and Community Engagement Committee – Joyce Karon & Deb Strauss

Co-chairs indicated that they continue to meet with target audiences to share the work of the Council including the School Report Card and implementation of the Common Core Standards. They look forward to being able to continue to serve as the communications arm of the Council and supporting the roll out of Council priorities.

e. School, College, and Career Readiness Committee – John Rico

John Rico thanked those who served on the Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Joint Working Group for their commitment to the process during the development of their Postsecondary and Workforce Readiness Framework and for their continued partnership. He indicated that he is looking forward to continuing the conversation and developing a strategy for disseminating the framework and helping related stakeholders best leverage the work of this sub-committee. He also indicated that his group has been in conversation with Rep. Chapa LaVia about possible next steps for moving the work forward.

X. 2:25pm Longitudinal Data System and Benchmarking the P20 Goal – John Evans, University of Illinois & Jon Furr, Northern Illinois University

Jon Evan, Chair of the Longitudinal Data System (LDS) Governance Board, thanked the Council for their continued support for the work associated with the development of the LDS and he provided an introduction to the key areas of focus for the Board as well as their primary charges. Due to technical challenges, he turned the presentation over to Jon Furr in Chicago.

Furr presented on the background of the LDS, the governance structure and intergovernmental agreement, key activities and timelines, priority research questions to be addressed by the LDS as well as the way in which the LDS will be helpful in reporting on progress towards the 60% by 2025 goal. Included in his presentation was the mechanism for engaging external stakeholders via committees and as well as short term research projects which will be able to be completed as a result of the establishment of the LDS. Slides were distributed and posted online.

XI. 3:05pm Agency Updates

State education agencies provided brief updates on key initiatives and priority legislation.

XII. 3:45pm Adjourn

Chair apologized for the technical difficulties incurred during the meeting and reminded the Council and guests that meeting materials are available through the website. The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for

Wednesday, April 23, 2014 at a location to be determined. Chair thanked all attendees for their patience participation and the meeting was adjourned.